

25 May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

The Psychology department is delighted to be able to offer an exciting opportunity to our Year 12 A-level students. On Monday 11th July we will have a visit from renowned Psychologist Dr Guy Sutton, director of MBI and Honorary Lecturer at the University of Nottingham Medical School. Dr Sutton's primary areas of interest are the genetics of neurodevelopment and neuropathology and the interactive nature of genetic, biological and behavioural factors in chronic disease processes. These fit well with our A level studies of biopsychology and psychological abnormality, and represent a fantastic enrichment opportunity, the likes of which we have been sorely missing amidst the difficulties we've faced during the ongoing public health situation.

Dr Sutton will be giving introductory seminars with smaller groups of students throughout the day on neuroscience and brain structure. The seminars are interactive and include the dissection of a sheep's brain and resulting discussion on the structure of the brain and its relationship to various disorders. They will be tailored towards knowledge required for the upcoming examinations.

The students attending will benefit enormously from this activity. Not only will it introduce them to new topic areas not yet studied but assessed in the summer exams, it will also consolidate previous learning and really enhance their understanding, enabling them to produce more effective writing for assessment. Those students who are squeamish can choose to sit away from the dissection but would still benefit from the rest of the session. We cannot recommend this opportunity highly enough as Dr Sutton is hugely sought after, and his lectures are renowned for their memorable and engaging style. They will be able to use this event as evidence of experiential learning in their UCAS statements, and discuss their ideas about the brain in interviews for university study.

We do, however, request that students make a small payment of £10.00 in order to participate in this activity. Dr Sutton is in high demand and his visit incurs costs that unfortunately we are unable to accommodate as a department – it is, however, the cheapest price we have ever been able to negotiate and worth every single penny. We ask that this payment be made on SCOPAY. **The deadline for this will be Friday 8th July.**

Attendance at this event is **compulsory** for students and we hope you understand the necessity for the worthwhile contribution.

Thank you
Daniel Vernon
Subject Leader of Psychology

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